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Needle-free injectors for medical use — Requirements and test methods

Injecteurs sans aiguille à usage médical — Exigences et méthodes d'essai

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 21649 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 84, *Devices for administration of medicinal products and intravascular catheters*.

Introduction

This International Standard applies to needle-free injectors primarily intended to administer medicinal products to humans. Because of the anticipated variation in the designs of such a broad array of devices, this International Standard is promulgated more as a “horizontal” rather than a “vertical” one. Thus, it will tend to specify the results of the design effort instead of the physical and construction requirements used as the basis for device design, so that innovation in achieving the intended purposes is not unnecessarily restricted.

Standards of this nature intentionally avoid addressing more than the most basic elements regarding the safety and performance of needle-free injector devices in humans. Any intended labelling of such devices indicating their use to deliver medicinal products into the body or into specified tissue compartments thereof (e.g., intramuscular, subcutaneous or intradermal), or for the administration of specific pharmaceutical drugs or vaccines, shall fall under the authority of national governments or supranational agencies regulating the manufacture and marketing of medical devices and pharmaceutical products. Such standards are expected to be supplemented by additional requirements and may occasionally be superseded by such regulatory authorities. Despite certain advantages for intentional interchangeability for dose chambers designed for different needle-free injection systems, as well as the potential risks of inadvertent interchangeability, these standards avoid setting forth design specifications for the uniform size, shape and interface of such dose chambers. This issue is left for future initiatives to build upon the standards promulgated herein.

The sampling plans for inspection selected for this International Standard are intended to verify the design, at a high confidence level, i.e., the manufacturer's ability to manufacture one “lot” of needle-free injectors, which conforms to the critical product attributes. The sampling plan does not replace the more general manufacturing quality systems, including lot release, which appear in standards on quality systems, e.g. the ISO 9000 series or ISO 13485.